



Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge

Event Descriptions

*Events marked with an asterisk require reservations. Call 419-898-0014 to save your spot!

FAMILY FISHING DAYS

Every Saturday and Sunday through September; 10am –3pm. Join us for an exciting day of catch and release fishing at the Visitor Center pond! All equipment and bait are provided.

BLUE GOOSE BUS TOUR

Enjoy behind the scenes access to closed areas of the refuge complex on this guided bus tour. Destinations vary depending on wildlife use and activity.

OTTAWA TRAM TOUR

Enjoy the breeze while searching for wildlife and admiring beautiful landscapes. This open air tram tour is great for the entire family!

NATURE TOTS

Children ages 3-5 are invited to bring their favorite adult for nature crafts, stories, and outdoor fun!

SWAMPERS

Children ages 6-12; join us to explore the refuge and have a swampin' good time!

WATER TRAIL TOUR

Explore new access areas of the refuge while paddling a local waterway. Trips include the Toussaint River and Crane Creek Estuary.

CARS FOR CRITTERS CAR SHOW

Friends of Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge sponsors this car show with live critters, great food, tram tours of the refuge, and DJ Cruisin Zeake spinning classic car show tunes!

20th ANNUAL PHOTO CONTEST

Enjoy the splendor of your federal lands through this annual photo contest display. Categories include Birds, Wildlife, Landscapes, and People. Contest entry forms available at the visitor center and online. (On display September 14—October 18)

HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE

(Sunday December 8; 12--4pm)

Celebrate the holiday season while enjoying a warm fire, festive music, kids crafts, and good company. Enter to win a gift basket too!

OTTAWA WILDLIFE DRIVE

Enjoy the refuge from the comfort of your car! The 7 mile ONE WAY gravel route begins from the overflow parking area. Open sunrise to sunset. (Entrance gate closes one hour prior to sunset)

MONTHLY BIRD SURVEYS

Join a refuge volunteer and become a citizen scientist the first Sunday of each month at 8:00 am. Bring your binoculars and dress for the weather. *Meet at the trailhead parking area.*

HOWL-O-WEEN

Join us for a howling good time at this family oriented Halloween event. Wear your favorite costume, take a tram tour of the refuge, play games and create a craft. Oh yea, and Candy too!

YOUTH WATERFOWL HUNTING WORKSHOP

This event is geared for the new waterfowl hunter. Learn about waterfowl ID, decoy setups, blinds, boats, and cooking. Registration forms are available at the visitor center and online.

CONTROLLED WATERFOWL HUNT

If you hear gun shots, DON'T BE ALARMED:
October 5, 6, 12, 14, 16, 18, 19, 21, 23, 25
November 9, 11, 13, 15, 16, 18, 20, 22, 25, 27
SOME REFUGE TRAILS CLOSED

CONTROLLED DEER ARCHERY HUNT

September 28 — October 2, October 26—30,
November 2—6, December 14—18
SOME REFUGE TRAILS CLOSED

CONTROLLED DEER GUN HUNT

If you hear gun shots, DON'T BE ALARMED:
November 23, 24 & Dec 2—6
ALL REFUGE TRAILS CLOSED

CONTROLLED DEER HUNT PREVIEW DAY

Prepare for a successful hunt by scoping out your hunting unit ahead of time (Saturday Nov 9, 2019).



Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge

Calendar of Events

September—December, 2019

*Reservations required. Call 419-898-0014 to save your spot!

Unless otherwise stated, programs begin at the visitor center.

Sunday, September 1

8am— Monthly Bird Survey

Sunday, September 22

9am-3pm— Cars for Critters Car Show

9am-3pm— Ottawa Tram Tours

Sunday, September 29

9:30am-12:00pm— Blue Goose Bus Tour*

1-3:30pm— Blue Goose Bus Tour*

Saturday, October 5

10:30-11:30am— Nature Tots*

1-2:30pm— Swampers*

Sunday, October 6

8am— Monthly Bird Survey

12pm— Youth Waterfowl Hunting Workshop*

Sunday, October 13

9:30am, 11am & 2pm— Ottawa Tram Tours

Sunday, October 20

9:30am-12:00pm— Blue Goose Bus Tour*

1-3:30pm— Blue Goose Bus Tour*

Saturday, October 26

10am-3pm— Ottawa Tram Tours

1-3pm—Howl-O-Ween

Saturday, November 2

10:30-11:30am— Nature Tots*

1-2:30pm— Swampers*

Sunday, November 3

8am— Monthly Bird Survey

Saturday, November 9

12-4pm— Controlled Deer Hunt Preview Day

Sunday, November 10

9:30am-12:00pm— Blue Goose Bus Tour*

1-3:30pm— Blue Goose Bus Tour*

Saturday, November 16

10am-2pm— Water Trail (Toussaint River) Tour*

Sunday, November 24

9:30am-12:00pm— Blue Goose Bus Tour*

1-3:30pm— Blue Goose Bus Tour*

Saturday, November 30

10am-2pm— Water Trail (Crane Creek) Tour*

Sunday, December 1

8am— Monthly Bird Survey

Saturday, December 7

10:30-11:30am— Nature Tots*

1-2:30pm— Swampers*

Sunday, December 8

12pm-4pm— Holiday Open House

Visitor Center Closed:

Monday, October 14

Monday, November 11

Thursday, November 28

Tuesday, December 24

Wednesday, December 25

Thursday, December 26

Wednesday, January 1

Visitor Center Closes at Noon:

Wednesday, November 27

Tuesday, December 31

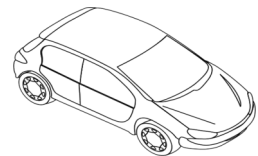


OTTAWA WILDLIFE DRIVE

September 1, 2, 7, 8, 14, 15, 21, 22

November 30

December 1, 21, 22



Enjoy the refuge from the comfort of your car! The 7 mile route departs from the visitor center entrance road. Gates open at sunrise and close one hour prior to sunset.